as I said, they are coming out with 70 per cent of vehicles. Secondly, if you are giving any concession for import duty, of course, automatically, there is an export obligation because none of them are getting any import concess-ion. They are paying full Duty. That is why, that is an obligation which is only just a formality and the same is not compulsory. If they ask for Duty concession, then they have to do it. None of these people have taken any duty concession. They are paying full Duty on whatever is imported. It is only a formality that we are doing but we are insisting on the indigenisa-tion of 50 per cent or 70 per cent as per the programme so that the Indian industry is developed, India production goes up and the employment potential will go up. That is the objective. That is the main object on which we are moving.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Sir, from the answer it is very clear that all these companies are coming to India to exploit Indian market. I fail to understand why the Government failed to formalise export obligation, at least, to the extent of outflow of foreign exchange due to import of these components by these companies. There is no point in crying now. It is because there is no formal export obligation. Now, how can you enforce it and ask them to export? This, certainly, is a failure of the Government.

In view of this, are you prepared to make it obligatory on these companies to export not to the extent of their projected commitment but to the extent of their import? I know why they have projected their commitment. It is just to get the files easily moved in your Office. You do not go by their projected commitment. At least, you enforce that to the extent they import, they should export so that the net foreign exchange outflow is not there. The Industry Minister is here, he can better answer this question.

DR. BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH : Sir, what the hon. Member has said is very relevant. In fact, in view of that, we are calling a review meeting for considering further import of components, and the question of winding up of these things. We will take up all these aspects, then finalise and enforce it.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Sir, it should be taken as an assurance from the Government.

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR : Sir, in part (e) of the reply, if you read the lines very carefully, it is mentioned:

> "This does not arise since no formal export obligation has been enjoined upon these joint venture companies."

So, this was not there within the parameters of the MoU. We do not know what was the total MoU. Five parameters have been discussed in this august House. However, the fulfilment of export commitments made by these firms is a matter for consideration while granting further licences. So, what was the commit-ment made by them in the MoU; whether that commit-ment was fulfilled by them or not; if not, how can the Government give a misleading reply ?

DR. BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH : Sir, as I mentioned very clearly, this export obligation depends upon the concessions that we are giving, whereas for all these things we are collecting full duty. Once they paid the full duty their obligation is also reduced. In spite of that we are again calling them for a further review meeting in which we want to finalise further strategy as to how go about it.

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR : It should not have been mentioned here like this.

[Translation]

Outstanding Dues of Coal India Limited

*144. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the MINISTER OF COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the suggestions given by K.S. Chari Committee constituted for coal industry on 'Integrated Coal Policy' to ensure disposal of disputed bills and also ensuring the recovery of amount of Coal India Ltd. which is outstanding against power sector;

(b) the action taken by the Government in view of the suggestions of Chari Committee; and

(c) the corrective steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for recovery of outstanding dues of Coal India Ltd. towards power sector and dispute between the two parties ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) to (c) : A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) The conclusions and recommendations of the Committee on Integrated Coal Policy do not contain suggestions on disposal of disputed bills or on ensuring the recovery of coal sales dues of Coal India Limited (CIL).

(c) Following steps have been taken by the Government/ Coal India Limited to recover the outstanding dues from the State Electricity Boards :

(1) Coal India Limited (CIL) have been advised to supply coal to power utilities only against advance payment or letter of credit. Cash and Carry Scheme is being implemented with greater rigour since 1.1.97.

(2) Coal India and its subsidiary coal companies have been persistently following up with the consumers in diverse sectors for settlement of dues.

(3) Recovery of dues by way of adjustment against energy bills is also being done in respect of certain Power utilities. State Government have been requested to pursuade/ enable SEBs to clear the outstanding dues at the earliest.

(4) Umpires have been appointed for resolving the disputed dues between the coal companies and SEBs.

(5) Government has recently decided to deduct outstanding dues as on 31.12.1996 of public sector under-takings under the Ministry of Power/Railways/Coal/Atomic

Energy through Central Appropriation with the stipulation that the appropriation be restricted annually to a maximum of 15% of the Central Plan Assistance for the concerned State irrespective of the number of years that it may take for the outstanding dues to be cleared.

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, Sir through you, I would like to ask a supplementary question regarding the answer given to may main question. In reply to question 'A' and 'B' would you be pleased to state whether total amount of Rs. 2804.72 crores is outstanding against power sector as on 31.1.97.

Out of which Rs. 1404.23 crore is disputed. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, coal India Ltd. is seeking foreign investment. A loan of rupees one Billion dollar was sanctioned. The Chari Committee had recommended that the project could be completed by taking financial assistance from foreign countries and through recovery of outstanding dues from the power plants or steel plants. A water management project of Rs. 2200 crore was operated in BCCL which is a unit of coal India. The money involved in the Gajli Khan accident, took place two years ago, was totally misused. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to have the answers of question 'A' and 'B'.

SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the answers to questions from 'A' to 'C' as hon. Member has asked, has been laid on the table. I do not understand what does he want to know. I could not understand his question.

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, In a written reply on report received through other sources, it has been stated that BCCL has shown an outstanding amount of rupees 170 crores against SAIL. We would like to know how and when coal India will be able to recover the dues outstanding against the Power sector, by what time its payment will be made, so that coal India may get some relief with regard to import of coal as well as loan being taken from other countries. Madam Minister, I am talking about the settlement of the disputed bills as mentioned in the report of Chari Committee, but what can I do, if you do not understand.

SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH : We have taken various steps to recover the amount involved in disputed dues. As per the decision taken by the committee of secretaries on 17.3.94 CIL has suggested the different Electricity Boards that in case they want to get supply of coal either they should open IRLC or they should make advance payment from 7.6.95 onwards. Almost all the Electricity Boards have complied the orders. Cash and carry system has been implemented strictly from 1.1.97 onwards and we have taken initiative to make deduction from central assistance, In pursuance of the instructions of the Government of India, the entire undisputed outstanding amount as on 21.5.90 will be deducted from the assistance being given by the Central Government Rupees 1093.44 crore have been recovered under this order. CCEA in their meeting held on 7.2.97 has taken a decision that the outstanding dues upto 21.12.96 against the Ministry of power, railways, coal and atomic energy will be recovered through deductions made from the assistance to be given by the Central Government. But a restriction has also been imposed that the amount to be recovered will not be more than 15% of the Central assistance to be given in a year. The Government have appointed the umpires for the disputed amount, who will give thier decision after hearing both the parties. It is hoped that after the decision of the umpires some solution in regard to the disputed amount of Rs. 635.300 crores would come out. We have appointed Shri R.K. Tikkoo, Shri V.Krishnan, Shri Vijay Raghwan and Shri R. Sriniwasan as umpires....*(Interruptions)* You are pressurising us. Hearings in regard to BTPS, RSEB, KPCL and MSEB have already been completed. Most of the hearings have been completed. The remaining hearings are in progress. Phase II-B has been referred to HSEB. In future, while assessing the performance of Chairman cum Managing Director of coal mines, it will be seen that how much outstanding dues are recovered by them? To expedite the recovery of the dues, the Chairman cum Managing Director would monitor the position every week. After implementing the cash and carry system, maximum area wise recovery of dues has been made during 1.1.97 ot 30.6.97 out of which ....*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Sufficient information has already been given.

SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH : There has been suffcient increase in the recovery of dues against the Department of Electricity. Through the cash and carry system .....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : At present the outstanding amount is 2804.72 crore rupees. This has been assessed by the Chari Committee 10 years ago. At present, this amount has not been assessed. How would it be recovered when low quality coal is supplied to Power Plants and Steel platns....*(Interruptions)* How much amount has been recovered so far out of 2804.72 and 1404.23 crore rupees and by which time the remaining amount would be recovered.

SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I told that we have formulated various programmes. We have made efforts to realise our dues from cement plants, steel plants and Department of Power.....*(Interruptions)*, We receive many complaints about the quality of coal. A Joint Company has been established with the help of Loading and Coal Control Agency to solve this problem. Equal number of Officers of concerned Electricity Boards and Coal Company have been appointed for collecting and checking the coal samples from time to time. This decision was taken by the Secretary, Department of Energy in the sitting held on 24.4.96. Under this decision....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA : As the hon. Minister has stated in Part 'C' of the question that officers have been appointed to settle the disputed dues between the State Electricity Boards and coal Company, I would like to know the names of the State Electricity Boards and the amount

out-standing against each of them. I would also like to know that on which level the Committee has been formed and by when these matters would be settled.

SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH : The Bihar Electricity Board owes Rs. 80.99 crores as on 31.12.96. Out of this, the disputed amount is Rs. 30.7 crore and the undisputed amount is Rs. 50.29 crore. As on 30.6.97, the total dues were to the tune of Rs. 133.26 crore. Uttar Pradesh Electricity Board owes Rs. 390.76 crore. Punjab State Electricity Board owes undisputed amount of Rs. 59.68 crore. Tamil Nadu State Electricity Board owes Rs. 70.83 crore, Haryana State Electricity Board owes Rs. 47.06 crore, Rajasthan State Electricity Board owes Rs.14.55 crore, Maharashtra State Electricity Board owes Rs. 116.76 crore, Madhya Pradesh State Electricity Board owes Rs. 80.92 crore, Gujarat State Electricity Board owes Rs. 244.49 crore, West Bengal Electricity Board owes Rs. 7.9 crore, Andhra Pradesh 02% and West Bengal Power Development Corporation owes Rs. 117.19 crore as undisputed amount.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : It is enough.

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, while mentioning the outstanding amount against the various States, the Hon'ble Minister has also mentioned the outstanding amount against Madhya Pradesh. I want to know from the Hon'ble Minister through you that whether this outstanding amount is a disputed amount for which adjudicator has been appointed and he has been unable to settle the matter. Whether it is a fact that this amount is outstanding because of the low quality of Coal supplied by C.I.L. What action has been taken against the officer who was found responsible for the supply of such disputed coal?

SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, our total dues upto 31.12.96....

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : He has inquired about Madhya Pradesh.

SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have appointed many umpires to take a decision in regard to Rs. 603.00 crore and the disputed dues will be settled shortly.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : He has asked that whether the supplied coal was of low quality ?

SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH : We have written to the States for joint sampling, for which many States do not agree. Many of them have gone to courts about joint sampling and the court have also stated that there should be joint sampling at the loading point of C.I.L. and some States do not agree to it also. So far as the supply of low quality coal is concerned, efforts have been made to improve the quality through various methods. This is correct that our officers are looking into this dispute.

[English]

SHRI ANADI CHARAN SAHU : Sir, sub-standard coal is being supplied to the power plants located in and around Talcher, Orissa. 'Sub-standard' will be a very harsh word. It is non-specification coal by Coal India. I would like to know, because of the supply of non-specification coal supplied whether disputes have been raised by these power plants as a results of which bills are not being paid. If that be so, what steps the Ministry is taking to settle these disputes?

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : She has already mentioned the steps taken to settle these disputes.

SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, so far as the problem of low quality coal is concerned, the Coal Companies are setting up coal handling plants to solve the problem.

12.00 hrs.

So that the coal to be supplied be uniform in size. The total capacity of C.H.P. in 1995-96 was 223.5 million tonne which was increased to 240.74 million tonne in 1996-97. We are trying to increase its capacity further. Besides, to redress the weight grievances, we have about 124 electrical and mechanical weighing centres at our rail loading points which also have the facility of electronic print out. As have been asked about specific power plant, I will conduct an inquiry into it.

[English]

SHRI ANADI CHARAN SAHU : Sir, that is not answer.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Illegal Transaction of Foreign Exchange

*141 SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV :

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be please to state:

(a) whether the Government have detected any cases of illegal transaction of foreign exchange in the country during the last six months;

(b) if so, the details and the number thereof ?

(c) the amount of foreign exchange recovered during the above period, State-wise; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to check the illegal transaction of foreign exchange?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c) : Zone-wise figures of cases taken up for investigations and the amount of foreign exchange recovered during the last six months by the Enforcement Directorate are as under :-